

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

25X1

1. The new steel works of the Vitkovice Klement Gottwald Iron Works is located on the eastern edge of Vitkovice, east of the Vitkovice-Hrabuvka road, in an area about 2,000 meters long and 1,000 meters wide. The plant is surrounded by a fence mostly of iron bars about two and one half meters high. On the north side the fence is of wood, about two meters high. The railroad from the old steel works to the blast furnaces leads past the north side of this factory. The transport department of the whole national enterprise is behind the Vitkovice - Hrabuvka road, which runs along the west side of the factory. The construction department is on the east side. 25X1
2. Of the employees in this plant about 10 are women.<sup>1</sup> About 40 prisoners from the prison camp at Vitkovice also work there, unloading trucks. There was also a work brigade of 50 persons from the military academy in Hranice, employed in the factory as unskilled labor. In addition, about 20 voluntary brigade workers from various branches of trade and elsewhere work there. They work voluntary brigade terms of six months.
3. Equipment (numbers refer to attached sketch):
  - a. Casting shop for manganese (17); two furnaces, each producing five tons of manganese in one tapping. There are generally two tappings per furnace during a shift.
  - b. Casting shop (20): 2 casting furnaces. One (1) produces 75 tons of steel per tapping and the other (2) 150 tons. The tapping of the Martin furnaces is always at 7 o'clock. There are also eight Talbot furnaces, which always have 1 tapping per shift. Each furnace has a capacity of 225 tons. These furnaces are not always in production, but only according to the demand for high-quality steel.

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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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25X1

-2-

- c. Annealing furnaces (23): eight annealing furnaces in which 15 ingots are always heated at one time.
  - d. Old rolling mill shop (33): 1 rolling mill with five sections (40), 1 hydraulic shearing machine (41).
  - e. New rolling mill: still under construction. So far no machinery has been installed.
  - f. New steel works: five cranes for 100 tons to 150 tons, three for 15 tons, and four for 10 tons. They are all overhead cranes. At the annealing furnaces there are four cranes with a carrying capacity of  $\frac{1}{2}$  ton.
4. Electric current comes from the 1st-of-May Power Station by direct cable.
5. Raw materials are brought in by rail as follows:
- a. Ores from the USSR, Sweden, Poland, Czechoslovakia.
  - b. Scrap iron mainly from Poland and from Brno and Pilsen plants.
  - c. Manganese ore from Sweden.
  - d. Dolomite from Poland.
  - e. Chromium arrives in crates measuring 100 x 60 x 60 (cm?) containing about 150 kg each. Origin unknown.
  - f. Silicon is brought in crates measuring 100 x 60 x 60 (cm?) weight 150 kg. Origin unknown.
6. Monthly production is as follows: The casting shop molds three large pieces weighing about 120 tons, which are made into crank shafts. In the casting shop are also molded: 9000 ingots for rail production, alloy type III; 9000 ingots for plate production, alloy type VI; 1000 armor plates, 150 x 110 x 35 centimeters, alloy type P7; 20 ingots of high quality steel for production of axles and shafts, alloy type P12. Ingots for rail production are finished in the rolling shop for rails and profile iron.
7. There is a shortage of metals for the production of high-quality steel. In the January 1953 inventory it was found that on an average 45% of production in the rolling shop was ruined. This discovery led to the transfer of all the foremen from the new steel works to other places of work.
8. Shipment of products is as follows:
- a. Rails are mostly sent to Korea.
  - b. Large molds for shafts for ships are finished in the old steel works and then sent to Switzerland.
  - c. Ingots for plates are sent to an unknown destination.
  - d. Armor plates are sent to the USSR for further processing.
  - e. Ingots of high-quality steel go to the forge at the old steel works for finishing.
9. The new steel works fulfills the Five-Year Plan on an average of 88%. There is about 30% absenteeism.

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25X1

-3-

10.

25X1

11. There are always two gatekeepers at the entrance, armed with pistols, and at night two works militia guards, armed with revolvers, patrol the plant. On Sundays a fire guard patrol is also on duty.
12. Workers dislike their work and prefer to loaf in the canteen. They are dissatisfied with financial conditions. Most of the workers live in private apartments. Only party officials are allotted works apartments.
13. Political instruction takes place twice a week, always either before or after a shift, for one hour. Officials are sent to advanced instructor courses for three months. After that they act as instructors.

Key to the plan of New Steel Works:

1. Martin furnace.
2. Martin furnace.
- 3.- 10. Talbot furnaces.-
11. Chimneys of furnaces.
12. Bunker for lime, 15 x 3 x 4 meters.
13. Bunker for dolomite - 15 x 3 x 4 meters.
14. Bunker for magnesite - 15 x 3 x 4 meters.
15. Empty bunker - 15 x 3 x 4 meters.
16. Magnesite mill - 15 x 20 x 10 meters.
17. Casting shop for manganese - a two-story building, 20 x 30, height 8 m.
- 18., 19. Furnaces for smelting manganese.
20. Workshop for Martin and Talbot furnaces. )
21. Entrance to workshop. ) Two story building,
22. Store for chamotte bricks. ) 120 x 60 x 30 meters.
23. Annealing furnaces shop. )
- 24.- 31. Annealing furnaces.
32. Laboratory.
33. Rolling shop, 60 x 30 x 30 meters.
34. Newly constructed rolling shop, 60 x 40 x 30 meters.

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-4-



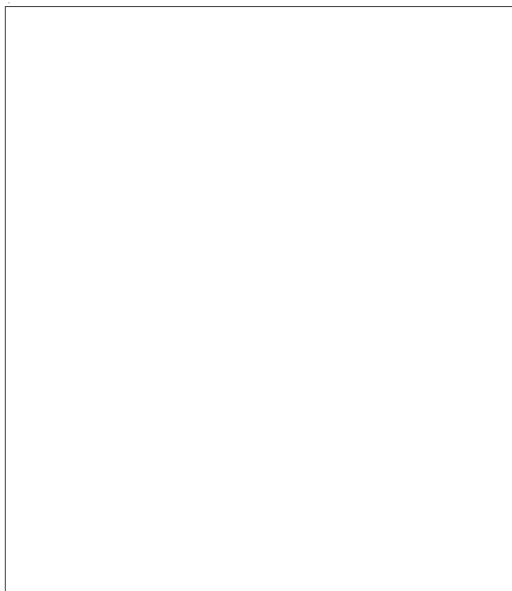
25X1

- 35. Pumping station for rolling shops and Martin furnaces, two-story building, 30 x 20 x 12 meters.
- 36. Narrow-gauge track.
- 37. Standard-gauge railway track.
- 38. Road to Hrabuvka.
- 39. Fence.
- 40. Rolling mill.
- 41. Hydraulic shears.
- 42. Temporary store for rolled material.



Comment: Total number of employees was not given by informant.

25X1



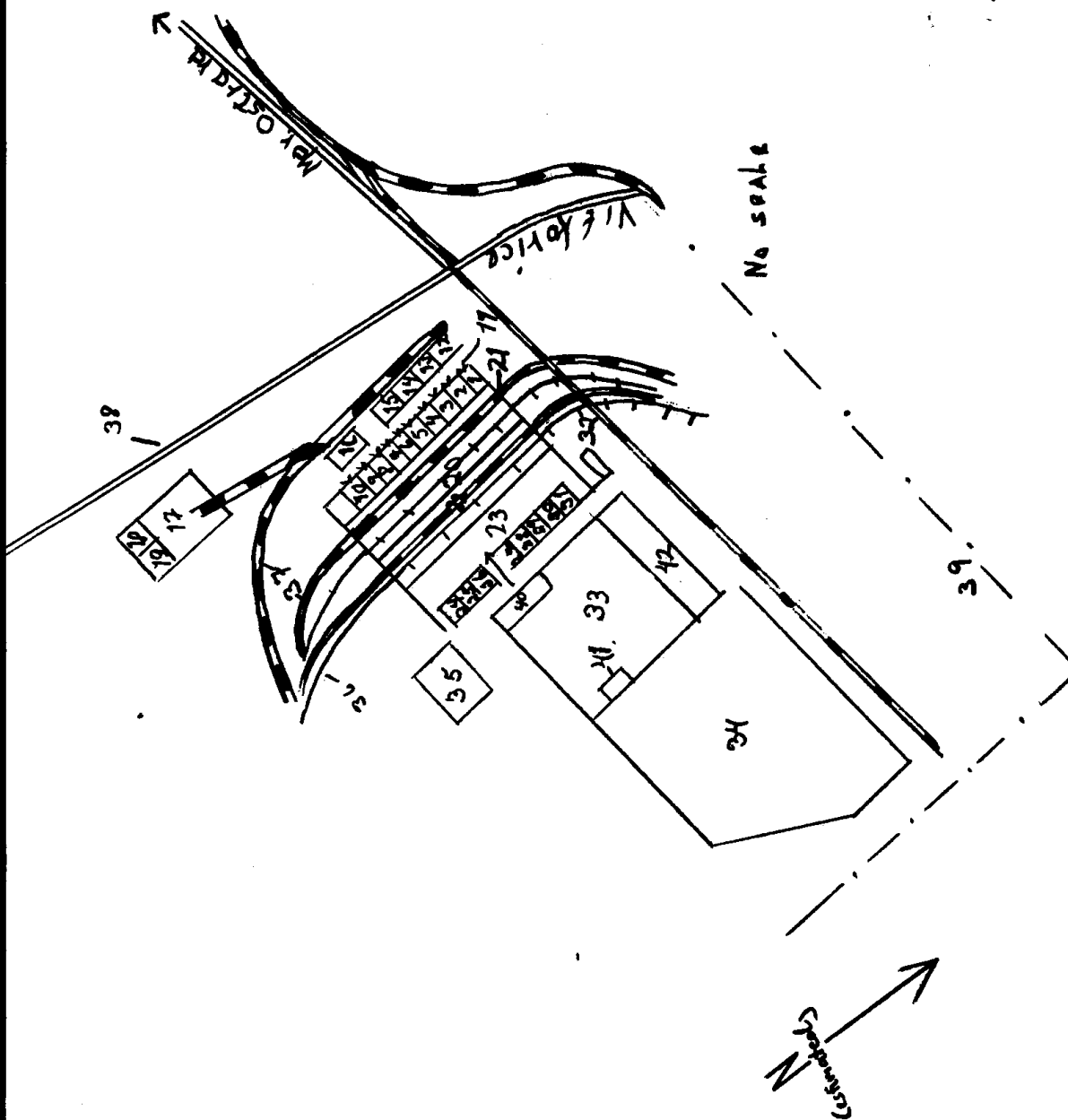
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25X1

-5-

New Steel Works, Vitkovice



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